

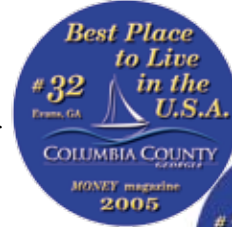


GET INVOLVED!

By Ron Cross
Board of
Commission
Chairman

Our Community and Leisure Services Division strives to offer quality special events at some of our parks throughout the year. As part of our advanced planning for established and new activities, we are asking that you get involved by filling out the questionnaire below to help us determine which

type of events would be most appealing to you. Please return the form below with your water bill payment, and we will provide a short summary of all responses received in next month's *Endless Opportunities*.



- What types of community events would you be most interested in attending? (please check all that apply)
 - ☐ Musical events (indoor / outdoor concerts)
 - ☐ Children's events
 - ☐ Holiday commemoration events (e.g., 4th of July / Memorial Day)
 - ☐ Festivals (e.g., Renaissance / Summertime on the Canal / Art in the Park)
 - ☐ Movie series
 - ☐ Art & crafts shows
 - ☐ Pet-related events
 - ☐ Environmental events (recycling events / Earth Day event)
 - ☐ Sporting events (e.g., fishing / baseball / soccer tournaments)
 - ☐ Ballet / musicals / drama

- If you are interested in musical events, which type interests you most?
 - ☐ Classical
 - ☐ Country/Bluegrass
 - ☐ Jazz
 - ☐ Contemporary
 - ☐ Other _____

- Which day and time would you prefer to attend community events?

<input type="checkbox"/> Monday – Friday evening	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday morning
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday evening
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday evening

- Would you prefer to attend outdoor or indoor community events?

<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor	<input type="checkbox"/> Indoor
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- In the past year, how many Columbia County community events did you attend?

<input type="checkbox"/> 0-3	<input type="checkbox"/> 8-11	<input type="checkbox"/> Over 15
<input type="checkbox"/> 4-7	<input type="checkbox"/> 12-15	

- Have you seen Columbia County community events advertised?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 If yes, where? _____

- Have you ever volunteered at a Columbia County community event? If YES, which one? If NO, would you be interested?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No

If Interested in Volunteering:

Name: _____
Phone : _____
Email: _____

- Would you be willing to pay an admission fee for events in the community?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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- Do you have any other comments regarding community events in Columbia County?

To help us with our survey, please provide your:

Zip Code _____
Age _____

Please return this survey with your monthly water bill payment. Thank you for your input!

For a complete list of 2007 and 2008 Community Events, please visit www.columbiacountyga.gov under the "Residents" tab. This survey is also on our website.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE

Large capital improvements in Columbia County are generally funded by General Obligation (GO) bonds or by the 1¢ Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax. These two charts represent projects funded by both GO bonds and SPLOST and their current status. Contact Construction and Maintenance Director Scott Herring at 706-868-3356 or by e-mail at sherring@columbiacountyga.gov for more information.

2006 – 2010 SPLOST PROJECTS UPDATE (SPLOST = Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax or the 1¢ sales tax)

Projects	Current Update
Transportation : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georgia DOT projects County projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resurfacing Dirt road paving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan preparation and Right of Way (ROW) acquisition ongoing Plan preparation and Right of Way (ROW) acquisition ongoing Ongoing Planning and ROW acquisition ongoing – Grant, Summit Ridge, Hamilton, and Powell Church Roads to be completed by fall 2007
County Facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building A – renovate or replace Savannah Rapids Pavilion Evans Gov't Center parking Animal Shelter improvements Other facility renovations Building acquisitions/expansions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appling Courthouse renovations Evans Gov't Center master plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On hold New roof installed/interior renovations scheduled for fall 2007 Awaiting master plan approval On hold for master plan/sewer issues Ongoing – New Board of Elections space is an example Completed in 2006 90% complete
Public Safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency Operations Center Fire stations & renovations Land for new fire stations Fire apparatus replacement Computer hardware/software 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed – opened in August 2006 Completed – currently have 13 staffed and 3 un-staffed stations Completed Completed – all apparatus received and in service Ongoing multi-faceted project - to be finished in 2008
Recreation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blanchard Woods Park Canal Headgates Reed Creek Park wetland center Reed Creek Park boardwalk add. Wildwood Park improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disc Golf Club House New park land acquisition Upgrade existing parks Greenspace acquisition New park improvements Performing Arts Center upgrade Baker Place recreation Blackstone Camp improvements Other projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eubank Blanchard pavilion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed – ribbon cutting September 13th Planning for parking and pedestrian amenities Completed - opened in March 2006 Designed - construction to begin January 2008 Ongoing – master plan completed Completed - opened in April 2007 Tier II project if funds are available Ongoing – new signage, etc. Master plan completed and applying for grant Tier II project if funds are available Completed in January 2006 On hold pending land acquisition On hold pending land acquisition Ongoing Construction underway – to be completed by fall 2007
Intergovernmental : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water & sewer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wrightsboro and Eubanks Dr Appling sewer line Ridge Road water line Euclaw Creek sewer Municipalities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water lines completed 90% complete Construction started Engineering complete, ROW acquisition in progress Ongoing



Intern



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NOVEMBER 2006 GO BOND PROJECTS UPDATE

(Funds to repay bonds come from property taxes)



Road paving



International Disk Golf Center



Agency Operations Center



Fire engines



Water line

Projects under construction in 2007	Current Update
Water: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SWU master plan to identify needed improvements SW maintenance facility on Chamblin Road Halifax Subdivision – stream restoration La Vista Drive – install drainage pipe William Few Parkway drainage improvements Mullins Pond regional detention facility Bowen Pond restoration Dozier Road – install 37,5000 feet of water main Water line to serve GR Tucker Old Louisville water line construction Water storage tank to serve Cities and County Sanitary sewer line installation Water line and booster pump station acquisition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40% complete Under design Corps of Engineer permit complete, awaiting State permit Waiting on State permit Staff working with residents Under construction – estimated finish date April 2008 Corp of Engineer permit applied for Engineering complete, in contract Materials purchased, work began in August Under engineering design Under engineering design Under engineering design Completed
Transportation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industrial Park Drive widening to 5 lanes at Lowe's School sidewalk – Evans High School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finishing ROW documents – begin ROW acquisition this fall Completing design – construction by end of 2007
Recreation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blanchard Woods Park land acquisition Evans Town Center Park land and utilities Blackstone Camp Road land acquisition Wildwood Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiations in process Land repaid and master plan design underway Negotiations in process Design underway for improvements to park entrance
Public Safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appling master plan for all County facilities Fire Dept training facility land & construction Leah fire station land and construction HazMat items to establish 24/7 response team Ladder truck to be housed at Sugar Creek Dr. Battalion chief vehicle house at Ray Owens 4 Class A fire engines - stations 10, 13, 14 & 16 Sheriff's weapons training facility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed Completed Winfield and Burks Mountain stations Land acquisition and station design in process 98% of equipment ordered or purchased New truck to be delivered this November New truck to be delivered this October Completed - all vehicles received and in service In design – revising specifications to rebid
Projects under construction in 2008 and currently in planning/ROW acquisition	Projects under construction in 2009 and currently in planning/ROW acquisition
Water: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Petersburg Station stream restoration Wynngate stream restoration Ridge Crossing flood control study Euchee Creek drainage basin sewer lines 	Water: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Betty's Branch stream restoration
Transportation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Martinez area redevelopment School sidewalk – Evans Elementary School Creek crossing on Reynolds Farm Road Crawford Place Road paving Hinton Wilson Road paving 	Transportation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> William Few Ext. acquire ROW & move utilities School transportation construction per BOE (i.e., roadway improvements to new high school) Owens, Cox & Gibbs widen loop with DOT help Hereford Farm Road widening with DOT help
Public Safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Court software, data conversion & training 	

Community Calendar

September

- 1 Labor Day fireworks at Wildwood Park at dark - \$5 car admission fee.
- 3 All library branches and County government offices will be closed for Labor Day.
- 5 *Nurturing Nature Preschool Walks* - a walk, story, and craft about nature from 10 – 11 AM. Each week will be a different topic and children must be accompanied by an adult at the Reed Creek Wetland Interpretative Center. (706) 210-4027
- 6 *Sunset Music Series* - Free concert in the Amphitheater at 7 PM featuring the *Vellotones*.*
- 8 *Starting a Small Business* sponsored by Brenau University at 10 AM. Pre-register by calling (706) 447-7660.
Wetlands are Wonderful Scavenger Hunts - hands-on program about the plants and creatures that live here. For school-aged children accompanied by an adult but all are welcome at the Reed Creek Wetland Interpretative Center from 10 AM - noon. (706) 210-4027
Screen on Green movie series featuring *The Incredibles* (PG) at 7 PM in the Amphitheater - \$1 per person.**
- 11 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at 8:30 AM at the Justice Center flagpole on the Norwood Freedom Plaza.
Tadpole Tales and Salamander Stories - come and enjoy tall tales while having afternoon tea and a treat. Designed for adults with small charge for food at the Reed Creek Wetland Interpretative Center from 1-2 PM. (706) 210-4027
- 13 *Sunset Music Series Finale* - Free concert in the Amphitheater at 7 PM featuring the *Groove Masters*.*
- 14-15 Opening performance of the Columbia County Ballet at 7 PM in the Jabez Sanford Hardin Performing Arts Theater on Friday and 3 PM on Saturday.
- 15 *Wetlands are Wonderful Scavenger Hunts* - hands-on program about the plants and creatures that live here. For school-aged children accompanied by an adult but all are welcome at the Reed Creek Wetland Interpretative Center from 1-3 PM. (706) 210-4027
Screen on Green movie series featuring *National Treasure* (PG) at 7 PM in the Amphitheater - \$1 per person.**
- 16 Scrabble Club – Bring your board and have some fun from 2 - 5 PM for ages 12+.

- 17 Book discussion at Main Library featuring *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards at 6:30 PM. Refreshments provided.
- 19 *Nurturing Nature Preschool Walks* - a walk, story, and craft about nature from 10 - 11 AM. Each week will be a different topic and children must be accompanied by an adult at the Reed Creek Wetland Interpretative Center. (706) 210-4027
- 22 Electronic Recycling Day at the Evans Government Center from 9 AM – 2 PM. Accepted items include computers, phones, digital cameras, and VCR/DVD players and related equipment. Unable to accept TVs, stereo speakers, microwaves, or larger appliances.
Wetlands are Wonderful Scavenger Hunts - hands-on program about the plants and creatures that live here. For school-aged children accompanied by an adult but all are welcome at the Reed Creek Wetland Interpretative Center from 10 AM - noon. (706) 210-4027
Screen on Green movie series featuring *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* (PG) at 7 PM in the Amphitheater - \$1 per person.**
- 25 *Tadpole Tales and Salamander Stories* - come and enjoy tall tales while having afternoon tea and a treat. Designed for adults with small charge for food at the Reed Creek Wetland Interpretative Center from 1 – 2 PM. (706) 210-4027
- 27 Brown Bag Lunch book discussion at 11:30 AM. Call (706) 447-7660 for book title.
- 29 *Wetlands are Wonderful Scavenger Hunts* - hands-on program about the plants and creatures that live here. For school-aged children accompanied by an adult but all are welcome at the Reed Creek Wetland Interpretative Center from 1 – 3 PM. (706) 210-4027

October

- 3 *Nurturing Nature Preschool Walks* - a walk, story, and craft about nature from 10 – 11 AM. Each week will be a different topic and children must be accompanied by an adult at the Reed Creek Wetland Interpretative Center. (706) 210-4027
- * *Sunset Music Series* sponsored by The Columbia County News Times, Ernie Blackburn Builders, Pierwood Construction, and Bill Beazley Homes. For more information, call (706) 312-7194.
- ** September *Screen on the Green* series sponsored by *The Columbia County Magazine* and 93.9 *The Drive*.

Announcements

- ★ The Reed Creek Park and Wetlands Interpretive Center offers outreach programs and field trips for schools, science clubs for homeschoolers, and scout programs. Please call (706) 210-4027 for more information.
- ★ *Be a Young Naturalist!* - Birthday parties at Reed Creek Park with indoor and outdoor scavenger hunts, games, and activities. Offered Friday afternoons or Saturdays. Call (706) 210-4027 for fee and available dates.
- ★ *Reed Creek Park Young Naturalist After-School Clubs* - Do you like slithering snakes, timid turtles, slimy salamanders, or beautiful butterflies? What about wonderful wildflowers? Then join one of our Young Naturalist after-school clubs to explore the natural world. The K-2nd grade club begins meeting September 27, and the 3rd-5th grade club begins meeting October 4th. Clubs will continue to meet twice a month on Thursday afternoons from 4:30 – 5:30 PM. Call (706) 210-4027 for fees and registration information.

- ★ Story Time at Evans Library begins September 17th. Call (706) 447-7657 to register.
 - ★ *Citizen's Law Enforcement Academy* is a free course that is held every Thursday evening for 10 weeks beginning September 13th. Call (706) 541-3905 for more information or to apply.
 - ★ Classes in Spanish and computer as well as literacy tutoring available at the Main Library. Please call (706) 447-7660.
 - ★ Art exhibits by Georgene Wright, Casey Szocinski, and Betsy Borgatti in Main Library and works by Mrs. Smith at Euchee Creek Library.
 - ★ Nominations are now being accepted for the 2008 *One Book, One Community* community-wide read. Nomination boxes are located in all three Columbia County Libraries and are also accepted online at <http://oboccolumbiacoga.blogspot.com>.
- For further information on any of these events, please call (706) 312-7194 or bwillis@columbiacountyga.gov.